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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, February 4, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 29 totaled an estimated 14.9 billion ton-miles, 5.8 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 4 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 59.1 billion ton-miles, 1.8 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended January 29 totaled 340,941 cars, 9.3 percent below 1982, but 1.7 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 12.1 percent in the East, 13.1 percent in the South and 5.2 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 16 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, loadings of lumber and wood products registered a 20.6 percent gain and motor vehicle and equipment loadings were up 28.6 percent. Fourteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended January 22 totaled 38,766 cars, up 13.9 percent from the corresponding week of 1982 and 64,868 trailers and/or containers, 5.6 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first three weeks of the year was 110,976 cars, 17.0 percent higher than last year, and 189,545 trailers and/or containers, up 10.7 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 1/29/83:

	Loadings in Week ended January 29, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	24,363	D	1,220	4.8	D	2,944	10.8
Other farm products	4,954	I	696	16.3	I	121	2.5
Metallic ores	10,660	D	5,325	33.3	I	66	0.6
Coal	95,706	D	13,452	12.3	D	611	0.6
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	6,866	D	1,569	18.6	I	253	3.8
Nonmetallic minerals	10,746	I	1,205	12.6	I	538	5.3
Grain mill products	12,407	D	2,081	14.4	I	80	0.6
Food and kindred products	12,461	D	2,286	15.5	D	35	0.3
Primary forest products	14,449	D	3,516	19.6	I	980	7.3
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,347	I	1,253	20.6	I	343	4.9
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,225	D	3,012	16.5	I	159	1.1
Chemicals and allied products	22,449	D	1,047	4.5	I	305	1.4
Petroleum products	4,748	D	668	12.3	D	184	3.7
Stone, clay and glass products	8,603	D	1,360	13.7	I	108	1.3
Coke	4,050	D	498	10.9	D	234	5.5
Metals and products	7,481	D	4,649	38.3	I	723	10.7
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,536	I	3,451	28.6	I	1,558	11.1
Waste and scrap materials	6,817	D	2,725	28.6	D	305	4.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	8,733	D	425	4.6	I	1,537	21.4
All other carloads	47,120	I	3,868	8.9	I	4,150	9.7
LCL traffic	220	D	1,706	88.6	D	762	77.6
Total Cars Loaded	340,941	D	35,066	9.3	I	5,846	1.7
Corresponding week of 1982	376,007						

	1983	1982	% Change
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
3 Weeks ended January 22	44.2	44.3	D 0.4
Week ended January 29	14.9	15.9	D 5.8
4 weeks cumulative	59.1	60.2	D 1.8

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